

SENATE RESOLUTION 71
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to confirm the appointment of Walter G.
Knestrick of Davidson County as a
Commissioner of the Watkins Institute.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-50-701, provides for the creation of the Watkins Institute "to promote the diffusion of knowledge among the people, and to afford an opportunity to the youth of Nashville ... to acquire information upon such useful subjects as will be beneficial in the business of life"; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of philanthropy, personal integrity, and selfless service to the greater Nashville community and the education of its citizens have been hallmarks of the Watkins Institute, a tradition passed down by its benefactor, Samuel Watkins; and

WHEREAS, since its founding in 1885, the Watkins Institute has developed into one of the finest community education institutions in the nation and now offers degree programs in the fine and applied arts; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-50-701, further provides that the Governor "is authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, three persons, to be known as 'commissioners of the Watkins Institute'; and

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WHEREAS, Governor Sundquist appointed Walter G. Knestrick of Davidson County to serve a term as a Commissioner of the Watkins Institute; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Knestrick, a graduate of Vanderbilt University, serves as Manager of Knestrick Development Company, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Walter Knestrick is a member of the AmSouth Bank Endowment Board, the Board of Directors of the Frist Center for the Visual Arts Foundation, the Board of Trustees of the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, the Metropolitan Nashville YMCA Board, the Nashville International Airport Arts Committee, which he serves as President, and the State Board of Licensing Contractors; and

WHEREAS, a past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Brentwood Academy, the Tennessee Performing Arts Management Board, and the Tennessee State Museum Foundation and a former member of many similar illustrious and beneficent organizations, Mr. Knestrick's long-standing history of effective public service is evident; and

WHEREAS, he has been recognized many times over for his devotion to the Arts with many honors and awards; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Knestrick is a person of integrity and an active citizen whose benevolence, acumen, and strong commitment to public service have helped to enhance the well-being of this State and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that this body does hereby confirm the appointment of Walter G. Knestrick as a Commissioner of the Watkins Institute for a term of four years.